



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

Docket No. USCG-2015-0746

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Surf City, NC

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of deviation from drawbridge regulation.

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SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the S. R. 50 Bridge across the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, mile 260.7, at Surf City, NC. This deviation is necessary to facilitate reconstruction of the bridge fender system. This deviation allows the bridge to remain in the closed-to-navigation position.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 4a.m. on August 17, 2015 to 2 p.m. October 23, 2015.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, [USCG-2015-0746], is available at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Type the docket number in the "SEARCH" box and click "SEARCH". Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with

this deviation. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary deviation, call or e-mail Mr. Hal R. Pitts, Bridge Administration Branch Fifth District, Coast Guard; telephone (757) 398-6222, e-mail [Hal.R.Pitts@uscg.mil](mailto:Hal.R.Pitts@uscg.mil). If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Cheryl Collins, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The North Carolina Department of Transportation, who owns and operates the S. R. 50 Bridge, has requested a temporary deviation from the current operating regulations set out in 33 CFR 117.821(a)(2) to facilitate reconstruction of the bridge fender system.

Under the normal operating schedule for the S. R. 50 Bridge across the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, mile 260.7, at Surf City, NC in 33 CFR 117.821(a)(2); the draw shall open on signal for commercial vessels; open on signal for recreational vessels, except between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., the draw need only open on the hour. The bridge has a vertical clearance in the closed-to-navigation position of 13 feet above mean high water.

Under this temporary deviation, the bridge will be

closed to navigation from 4 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday; except for scheduled openings at 8:30 a.m. and 12 noon, and openings for commercial tug and barge traffic unable to transit through the bridge during a scheduled opening, if at least 3 hours notice is given. At all other times the bridge will operate under its normal operating schedule in 33 CFR 117.821(a)(2). The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway is used by a variety of vessels including small commercial fishing vessels, recreational vessels and tug and barge traffic. The Coast Guard has carefully coordinated the restrictions with commercial and recreational waterway users.

Vessels able to pass through the bridge in the closed position may do so at anytime. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies and there is no alternate route for vessels unable to pass through the bridge in the closed position. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notice to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impacts caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately

at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

DATED: August 5, 2015

Hal R. Pitts  
Bridge Program Manager  
Fifth Coast Guard District  
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